From: Heidi Baxter < heidibbaxter@gmail.com >

**Subject: Downtown Housing Study Public Hearing** 

**Date:** June 12, 2014 at 9:19:18 AM EDT **To:** Peter Owens peter@burlingtonvt.gov

As a native Vermonter and mother of 4 I have moved my college aged children into apartments in Portland, Oregon, Winter Park, Fl, Boston, New York City and on June 2nd Greene St in Burlington. All of these apartments were located by my kids and friends that they were living with. Portland and Winter Park were less expensive than Greene St by about \$150 per month on rent and even Boston was less by about \$100 per month. Both the Portland and Winter Park apartments were beautiful and quite new. Very clean and the Portland apartment even had a view of Mt Hood.

I was shocked by the run down condition of the Greene St house. Garbage was over flowing from the trash can and the street was lined with recycling. Glass was all over the narrow driveway. The lawn was not mowed and more importantly the house was absolutely filthy. My daughter assured me that this was the best place they had seen. As we are paying the heat I am concerned to see the ancient windows and flimsy doors.

I love Burlington. It is shocking to me that there hasn't been a movement for more affordable housing given the number of colleges in town and the allure that such a beautiful location provides.

Heidi

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